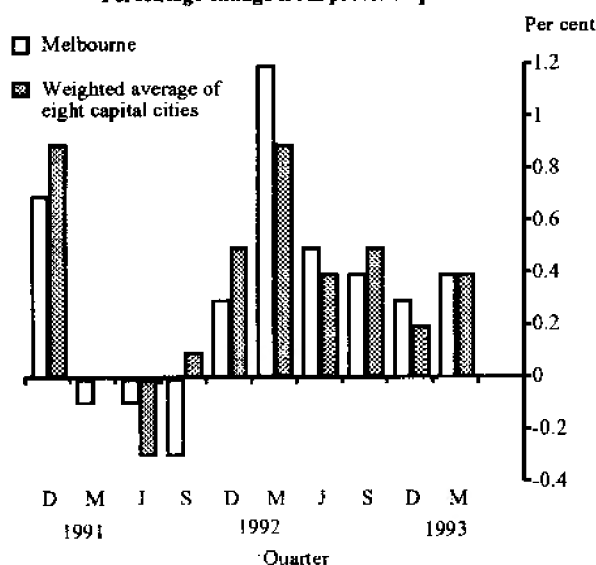


CATALOGUE NUMBER 1307.2
10 MAY 1994

**ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA,
APRIL 1994**

MAIN FEATURES

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: ALL GROUPS
Percentage change from previous quarter

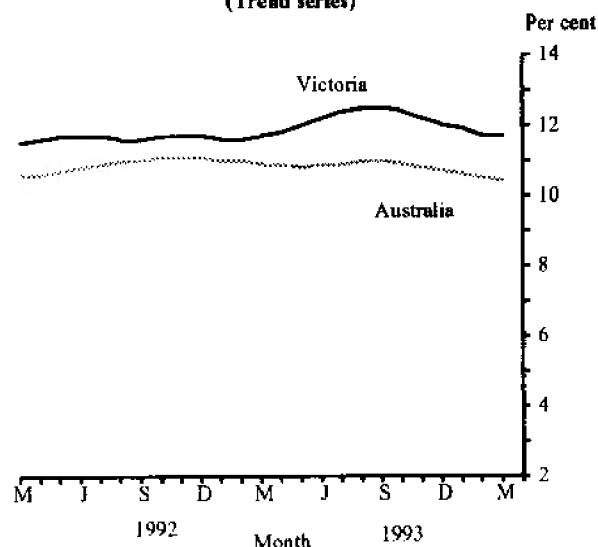


Consumer price index

The consumer price index for Melbourne increased 0.4 per cent between December quarter 1993 and March quarter 1994, resulting in an annual increase of (March quarter 1994 on March quarter 1993) of 1.6 per cent.

The weighted average of the eight capital cities increased 0.4 per cent between December quarter 1993 and March quarter 1994 and by 1.4 per cent between March quarters 1993 and 1994.

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE OF THE CIVILIAN
POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER**
(Trend series)



Unemployment rate

The trend estimate of the unemployment rate for Victoria in March 1994 remained constant at the February 1994 rate of 11.7 per cent. This followed consecutive monthly decreases from 12.5 per cent in September 1993 to 11.9 per cent in January 1994.

At the national level the unemployment rate (trend) decreased by a 0.1 percentage point to 10.4 per cent following monthly consecutive decreases since September 1993.

Readers are reminded that trend estimates are subject to revision as subsequent months data become available.

INQUIRIES

. for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Tony Ward or Dinny Jaconis on Melbourne (03) 615 7000; or any ABS State office.

. for information about other ABS statistics and services please contact Information Services Melbourne (03) 615 7000; or any ABS State office.

TABLE 1. VICTORIA IN RELATION TO OTHER STATES AND AUSTRALIA (a)

Indicator	Reference period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	Aust. (b)	Victoria as a percentage of Australia	
Employed persons	'000	Mar 94	2,633.0	1,955.9	1,408.3	637.5	782.3	195.2	7,838.2	25.0
*Unemployment rate										
- trend series	per cent	Mar 94	10.1	11.7	9.8	11.1	8.7	11.8	10.4	..
Average weekly total earnings										
- all employees (c)	\$	Nov qr 93	537.20	527.00	496.20	492.50	505.20	501.70	521.50	..
Consumer price index, all groups (c)	1989-90=100	Mar qr 94	109.1	111.2	110.8	113.6	108.6	111.9	110.4	..
*New dwelling units approved	no.	Feb 94	3,535	2,716	3,953	851	2,100	344	13,884	19.6
Value of all buildings approved	\$m	Feb 94	606.5	645.1	456.3	108.2	218.4	32.7	2,136.0	30.2
Engineering construction										
- commenced, total	\$m	Dec 93	819.2	456.9	604.7	176.8	307.3	35.3	2,518.1	18.1
- yet to be done, total	\$m	Dec 93	1,677.6	878.4	991.6	174.8	434.9	80.6	4,348.1	20.2
Housing finance for owner occupation	\$m	Jan 94	1,027.4	737.6	645.9	245.9	460.2	59.0	3,276.1	22.5
Retail turnover - trend estimates	\$m	Feb 94	2,977.9	1,994.4	1,503.4	655.8	875.6	216.3	8,474.6	23.5
New motor vehicle registrations										
- seasonally adjusted	no.	Mar 94	15,876	11,477	7,774	3,221	5,003	900.0	45,755	23.5
Takings, licensed hotels, motels and guest houses with facilities	\$'000	Dec qr 93	243,561	110,502	203,370	38,096	57,593	18,661	709,542	15.6
Exports (excluding re-exports)	\$m	Feb 94	1,034.4	926.3	900.1	300.4	1,229	76.7	4,612.2	20.1
Imports	\$m	Feb 94	1,919.2	1,504.0	457.2	175.6	301.3	21.2	4,407.9	34.1
*Industrial disputes (12 months ended Jan 94)										
- working days lost per '000 employees	no.	Jan 94	90	169	132	52	52	28	108	..
Electricity production	million kWh	Jan 94	4,710	n.p.	2,753	906.0	1,364	n.p.	13,171	n.a.
*Actual private new capital expenditure										
- seasonally adjusted	\$m	Dec qr 1993	1,940	1,846	823	304	1,710	75	6,759	27.3

CHANGE OVER SAME PERIOD PREVIOUS YEAR (PER CENT)

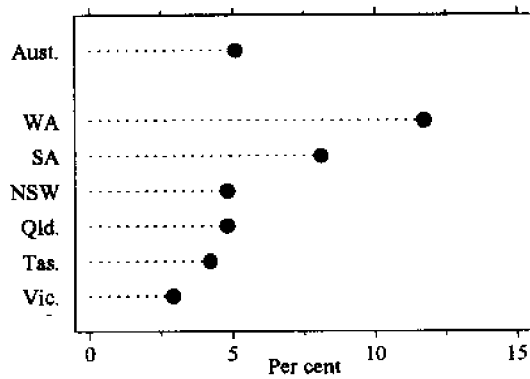
*Employed persons	'000	Mar 94	3.9	0.6	3.0	0.5	2.2	2.0	2.3	..
Unemployment rate										
- trend series	per cent	Mar 94	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Average weekly total earnings										
- all employees (c)	\$	Nov qr 93	1.4	4.4	4.8	4.8	3.0	5.7	3.4	..
Consumer price index, all groups (c)	1989-90=100	Mar qr 94	0.8	1.6	1.6	1.8	2.1	2.6	1.4	..
New dwelling units approved	no.	Feb 94	-10.0	16.3	15.7	-21.3	27.7	60.0	6.4	..
Value of all buildings approved	\$m	Feb 94	-2.9	93.1	21.8	-21.5	-17.0	6.2	17.0	..
Engineering construction										
- commenced, total	\$m	Dec 93	12.7	-11.6	21.6	0.3	-21.8	-19.8	3.6	..
- yet to be done, total	\$m	Dec 93	-5.3	-0.5	0.6	-14.6	-12.9	-45.6	-5.3	..
Housing finance for owner occupation	\$m	Jan 94	32.2	35.2	23.4	22.6	53.7	23.4	31.6	..
*Retail turnover - trend estimates	\$m	Feb 94	4.8	2.9	4.8	8.1	11.7	4.2	5.1	..
New motor vehicle registrations										
- seasonally adjusted	no.	Mar 94	-1.2	14.4	-12.4	5.9	10.3	-13.1	1.7	..
Takings, licensed hotels, motels and guest houses with facilities	\$'000	Dec qr 93	9.4	3.8	15.2	5.6	10.8	9.4	10.0	..
Exports (excluding re-exports)	\$m	Feb 94	0.5	1.7	6.9	11.1	5.1	-38.5	2.9	..
Imports	\$m	Feb 94	1.1	10.7	-14.6	-33.1	-10.2	-2.5	-0.5	..
Industrial disputes (12 months ended Jan 94)										
- working days lost per '000 employees	no.	Jan 94	5.9	-54.4	88.6	108.0	-45.8	-90.1	-31.6	..
Electricity production	million kWh	Jan 94	-6.0	n.a.	7.7	22.8	3.6	n.a.	0.9	..
Actual private new capital expenditure										
- seasonally adjusted	\$m	Dec qr 1993	-19.5	30.3	-20.4	-27.3	26.8	-39.5	-1.5	..

(a) All figures are original unless otherwise stated. (b) The Australian total includes figures for NT and the ACT. (c) Available only for the middle month of the quarter. * An asterisk before a statistical series denotes that a corresponding graph is included in the relevant section.

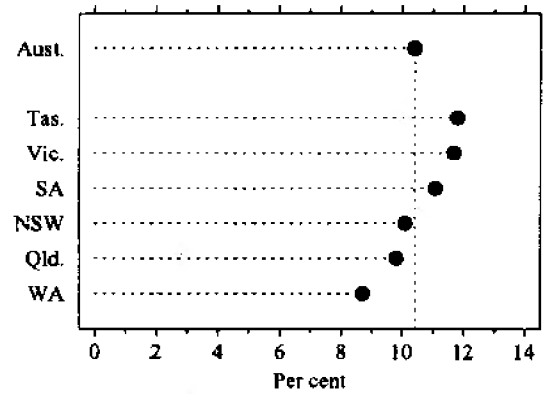
VICTORIA IN RELATION TO OTHER STATES AND AUSTRALIA

RETAIL TURNOVER

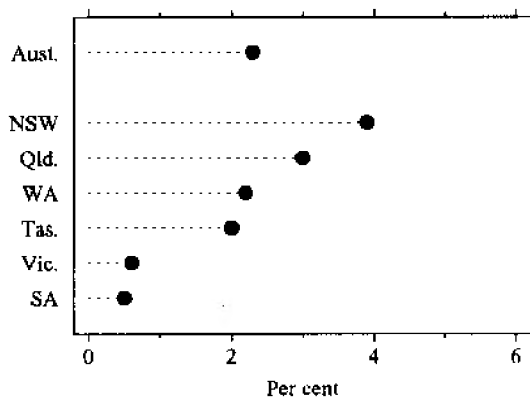
Trend estimates
Change over same period previous year
February 1994

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

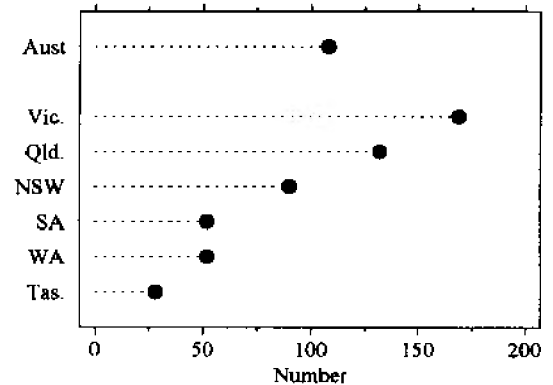
Trend series
March 1994

**EMPLOYED PERSONS**

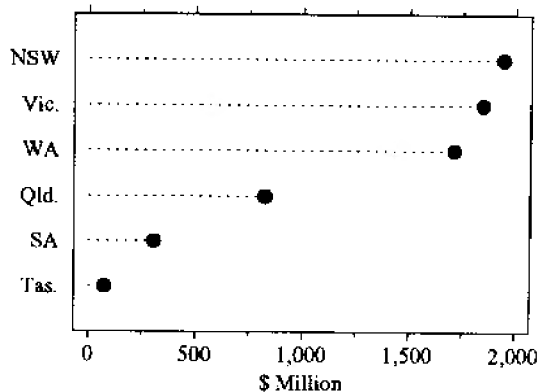
Change over same period previous year
March 1994

**INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES**

Working days lost per '000 employees
For the twelve months ended January 1994

**PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE**

Seasonally adjusted
December 1993

**NEW DWELLING UNITS APPROVED**

February 1994

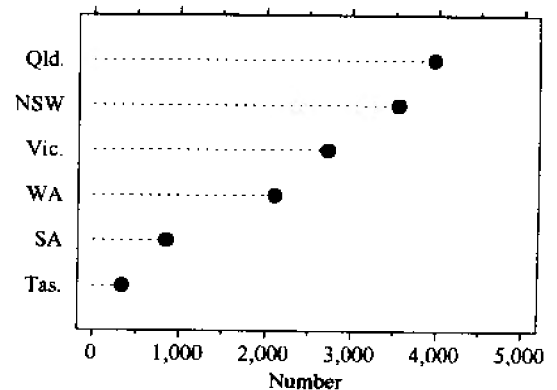


TABLE 2. ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA AND AUSTRALIA

Indicator		Reference period	Victoria				Australia		Victoria as a % of Australia	Source index (a)
			Figures		% Change		Figures	% Change		
			Latest period	Preceding period	Over preceding period	Over period previous year	Latest period	Over preceding period		
Population -										
Estimated resident population	'000	Jun 93	4,462.1	4,461.4	0.0	0.3	17,661.5	0.2	25.3	1
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	'000	Mar 94	4,729.2	3,519.4	34.4	33.9	13,888.5	0.1	34.1	2
Labour force -										
Labour force										
- original series	'000	Mar 94	2,228.1	2,214.8	0.6	-0.2	8,787.4	0.3	25.4	2
- seasonally adjusted	'000	Mar 94	2,218.9	2,193.1	1.2	0.8	8,729.5	0.0	25.4	2
- trend estimate	'000	Mar 94	2,200.6	2,201.3	0.0	0.9	8,736.8	0.0	25.2	2
Participation rate- seasonally adjusted	per cent	Mar 94	63.0	62.3	..	..	62.9	..	..	2
*Unemployment rate										
- original series	per cent	Mar 94	12.2	13.0	..	..	10.8	..	..	2
- seasonally adjusted	per cent	Mar 94	11.7	11.8	..	..	10.3	..	..	2
- trend estimate	per cent	Mar 94	11.7	11.7	..	..	10.4	..	..	2
Employed persons by industry (e)										
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, etc (b)	'000	Nov qr 93	103.6	92.6	11.9	8.1	518.2	2.9	20.0	13, 14
Manufacturing	'000	Nov qr 93	346.6	340.1	1.9	-4.3	1122.1	3.4	30.9	13, 14
Construction	'000	Nov qr 93	118.8	112.1	6.0	-0.3	558.7	-0.1	21.3	13, 14
Wholesale and retail	'000	Nov qr 93	431.6	430.8	0.2	3.4	1644.5	2.7	26.2	13, 14
Transport and storage	'000	Nov qr 93	86.3	78.9	9.4	2.0	373.1	1.4	23.1	13, 14
Finance, property and business services	'000	Nov qr 93	227.6	226.5	0.5	0.4	882.0	2.8	25.8	13, 14
Community services (c)	'000	Nov qr 93	357.7	352.2	1.6	-0.9	1501.6	0.9	23.8	13, 14
Recreational, personal and other services	'000	Nov qr 93	145.1	138.1	5.1	9.1	640.0	4.0	22.7	13, 14
Other industries (d)	'000	Nov qr 93	150.3	163.0	-7.8	-2.3	592.9	-2.3	25.3	13, 14
Total all industries	'000	Nov qr 93	1,967.6	1,930.9	1.9	0.7	7,833.1	1.9	25.1	13, 14
Job vacancies (e) - original series	'000	Feb 94	11.3	9.9	14.1	54.8	45.9	20.2	24.6	3
Overtime (e)										
Average weekly hours per employee	hours	Feb 94	1.31	1.46	-10.3	15.9	1.22	-6.2	..	3
Employees working overtime	per cent	Feb 94	17.23	17.45	-1.3	11.4	16.80	-2.1	..	3
Average weekly employee earnings (e)										
Full-time adult- total	\$	Nov qr 93	638.20	633.40	0.8	2.8	642.50	1.0	..	4
All employees - total	\$	Nov qr 93	527.00	521.10	1.1	4.4	521.50	0.2	..	4
Award rates of pay										
Full-time adult employees	June 85=100	Feb 94	142.0	142.0	0.0	0.6	140.9	0.1	..	5
Industrial disputes (12 months ended Jan 94)										
Working days lost per '000 employees	no.	Jan 94	169	169	0.0	-54.4	108	0.0	..	6
*Consumer price index (e)										
All groups	1989-90=100	Mar qr 94	111.2	110.8	0.4	1.6	110.4	0.4	..	7
*Retail trade establishments										
Value of turnover										
- original series	\$m	Feb 94	1,778.0	1,879.4	-5.4	4.7	7,488.9	-6.6	23.7	8
- trend estimate	\$m	Feb 94	1,994.4	1,993.6	0.0	2.9	8,474.6	0.4	23.5	8
- seasonally adjusted (1989-90 prices)	\$m	Dec qr 93	5,372.9	5,397.6	-0.5	2.0	22,503.0	1.9	23.9	8
*Overseas trade -										
Imports	\$m	Feb 94	1,504.0	1,610.0	-6.6	10.7	4,407.9	-9.4	34.1	9
Exports (exclude re-exports)	\$m	Feb 94	926.3	958.9	-3.4	1.7	4,616.2	1.3	20.1	10
Tourism -										
Caravan parks - takings	\$'000	Dec qr 93	19,096	15,301	24.8	5.1	108,504	4.0	17.6	23
Licensed hotels, motels and guest houses with facilities										
- Takings	\$'000	Dec qr 93	110,502	100,636	9.8	3.8	709,542	5.6	15.6	23
- Room occupancy rate	per cent	Dec qr 93	47.6	43.2	..	..	55.5	..	..	23

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 2. ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA AND AUSTRALIA - (continued)

Indicator		Reference period	Victoria				Australia		Victoria as a % of Australia	Source index (a)
			Figures		% Change		Figures	% Change		
			Latest period	Preceding period	Over preceding period	Over same period previous year	Latest period	Over preceding period		
*New motor vehicle registrations -										
New motor vehicle registrations										
- original series	no.	Mar 94	12,713	10,700	18.8	14.2	52,687	14.7	24.1	11
- seasonally adjusted	no.	Mar 94	11,477	11,449	0.2	14.4	45,755	-9.4	25.1	11
- trend estimate	no.	Mar 94	11,622	11,435	1.6	12.9	48,713	1.2	23.9	11
Cars and station wagons										
- original series	no.	Mar 94	10,861	9,289	16.9	12.6	43,695	12.4	24.9	11, 12
- seasonally adjusted	no.	Mar 94	9,785	9,919	-1.4	12.4	37,921	-11.3	25.8	11, 12
Other motor vehicles (excludes motor cycles)										
- original series	no.	Mar 94	1,852	1,411	31.3	24.6	8,992	26.9	20.6	11, 12
- seasonally adjusted	no.	Mar 94	1,692	1,530	10.6	27.4	7,835	1.1	21.6	11, 12
Manufacturing -										
Actual private new capital expenditure										
- original series	\$m	Dec qr 1993	738	618	19.4	36.7	1,987	11.2	37.1	15, 16
Production -										
Whole milk	million litres	Dec 94	587	629	-6.7	9.5	881	-5.5	66.6	17, 18
Butter	tonnes	Dec 93	15,679	16,188	-3.1	2.8	17,925	-2.9	87.5	19
Cheese (incl. cheddar and non-cheddar)	tonnes	Dec 93	14,486	14,789	-2.0	7.0	24,296	-2.9	59.6	19
Yarns										
- Cotton	tonnes	Jan 94	608	1,333	-54.4	33.0	1,583	-31.4	38.4	17, 18
- Woollen	tonnes	Jan 94	931	1,165	-20.1	41.5	1,113	-21.7	83.6	17, 18
Woven fabric										
- Cotton	'000 sq m	Jan 94	577	1,634	-64.7	-18.7	1,695	-55.1	34.0	17, 18
- Woollen (includes worsted wool)	'000 sq m	Jan 94	226	376	-39.9	-19.6	369	-32.4	61.2	17, 18
- Man-made fibres	'000 sq m	Jan 94	3,195	5,934	-46.2	9.4	9,891	-27.8	32.3	17, 18
Textile floor coverings	'000 sq m	Jan 94	2,146	2,936	-26.9	36.3	2,524	-26.4	85.0	17, 18
Clay bricks	million	Jan 94	11	21	-47.6	0.0	110	-23.6	10.0	17, 18
Ready mixed concrete	'000 cu m	Nov 93	245	246	-0.4	6.5	1,297	0.5	18.9	20
Paints and other surface coatings										
- Architectural and decorative paints	'000 litres	Nov 93	1,675	1,882	-11.0	8.1	10,082	-4.8	16.6	21
Electricity - production	million kWh	Jan 94	n.p.	3,224	n.a	n.a	13,171	-2.1	n.a	22
Gas - available for issue through mains	million Mj	Jan 94	8,456	12,236	-30.9	-12.8	38,251	-12.5	22.1	22
*Actual private new capital expenditure -										
Building and structures - original series	\$m	Dec qr 1993	448	396	13.1	17.3	2,234	26.6	20.1	15
Equipment, plant and machinery										
- original series	\$m	Dec qr 1993	1,511	1,298	16.4	34.3	5,043	9.7	30.0	15
Total new capital expenditure										
- original series	\$m	Dec qr 1993	1,960	1,695	15.6	30.1	7,277	14.4	26.9	15
- seasonally adjusted	\$m	Dec qr 1993	1,846	1,675	10.2	30.3	6,759	4.1	27.3	15
*Housing finance for owner occupation -										
Secured loans to individuals by type of lender										
All Banks										
- number of dwelling units financed	no.	Feb 94	8,985	13,443	-33.2	49.4	35,422	-24.9	25.4	24
- value of loans secured	\$m	Feb 94	698.6	937.9	-25.5	36.9	3,026.7	-21.4	23.1	24
Total number of dwelling units financed	no.	Feb 94	9,547	14,110	-32.3	46.4	38,450	-25.5	24.8	24
Total value of loans secured (f)	\$m	Feb 94	737.6	990.3	-25.5	35.1	3,276.1	-22.3	22.5	24
Loan purpose (g)										
- Established dwellings	\$m	Feb 94	560.1	787.0	-28.8	33.1	2,397.0	-23.3	23.4	24
- Construction of dwellings	\$m	Feb 94	116.3	150.6	-22.8	27.8	547.1	-22.7	21.3	24
- Newly erected dwellings	\$m	Feb 94	27.7	35.6	-22.2	50.5	161.3	-20.3	17.2	24
Finance -										
Personal finance commitments - total	\$m	Feb 94	435.9	433.7	0.5	45.0	2,102.1	0.1	20.7	30
Commercial finance commitments - total	\$m	Jan 94	1,653.9	2,007.7	-17.6	22.5	6,085.0	-27.2	27.2	31
Lease finance commitments - total	\$m	Jan 94	68.8	126.9	-45.8	20.3	321.0	-41.9	21.4	32

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 2. ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA AND AUSTRALIA - (continued)

Indicator	Reference period	Victoria					Australia		Victoria as a % of Australia	Source index (a)
		Figures		% Change		Figures	% Change			
		Latest period	Preceding period	Over preceding period	Over same period previous year	Latest period	Over preceding period			
Building Approvals -										
*New residential dwelling units										
- original series	no.	Feb 94	2,716	2,183	24.4	16.3	13,884	8.7	19.6	25, 26
- seasonally adjusted	no.	Feb 94	2,886	2,754	4.8	16.0	15,047	-6.9	19.2	25, 26
- trend estimate	no.	Feb 94	2,785	2,732	1.9	9.6	15,506	0.8	18.0	25, 26
Value of non-residential buildings										
- original series	\$m	Feb 94	363.4	65.3	456.5	297.2	781.0	38.0	46.5	26.0
Value of all buildings (f)										
- original series	\$m	Feb 94	645.1	304.9	111.6	93.1	2,136.0	18.4	30.2	26.0
Building commencements -										
New residential dwelling units, monthly	no.	Jan 94	2185.0	2,498	-12.5	5.8		n.a.		27.0
New residential dwelling units, quarterly	no.	Dec qr 1993	8308.0	7,487	11.0	12.3	44,469	-3.2	18.7	28.0
Building Activity -										
Value of total building activity										
- Commenced	\$m	Dec qr 1993	1,405.8	1,269.5	10.7	20.6	6,573.2	4.3	21.4	28
- Done	\$m	Dec qr 1993	1,332.0	1,286.7	3.5	-0.4	6,709.5	3.7	19.9	28
- Yet to be done	\$m	Dec qr 1993	1,364.4	1,273.2	7.2	-2.7	7,944.6	-0.3	17.2	28
Engineering construction -										
Value of work by private sector										
- Commenced	\$m	Dec qr 1993	226.8	215.9	5.0	-3.9	1,477.4	-2.1	15.4	29
- Done	\$m	Dec qr 1993	274.5	295.3	-7.0	31.7	1,697.9	0.1	16.2	29
- Yet to be done	\$m	Dec qr 1993	577.0	623.5	-7.5	1.4	2,444.8	-5.2	23.6	29
Value of work by public sector										
- Commenced	\$m	Dec qr 1993	230.1	273.2	-15.8	-16.0	1,040.7	-47.6	22.1	29
- Done	\$m	Dec qr 1993	230.7	198.6	16.2	-21.0	1,303.7	11.6	17.7	29
- Yet to be done	\$m	Dec qr 1993	301.4	302.9	-0.5	2.3	1,903.3	-12.6	15.8	29

(a) For more information on these series, refer to the publications listed in the source index below. (b) Includes hunting and mining. (c) Comprises health, education, libraries, etc., welfare and religious institutions, and other community groups. (d) Comprises electricity, gas and water, communications, public administration and defence. (e) Available only for the middle month of the quarter. (f) Includes, alterations and additions to residential buildings.

(g) Excludes, alterations and additions to residential buildings.

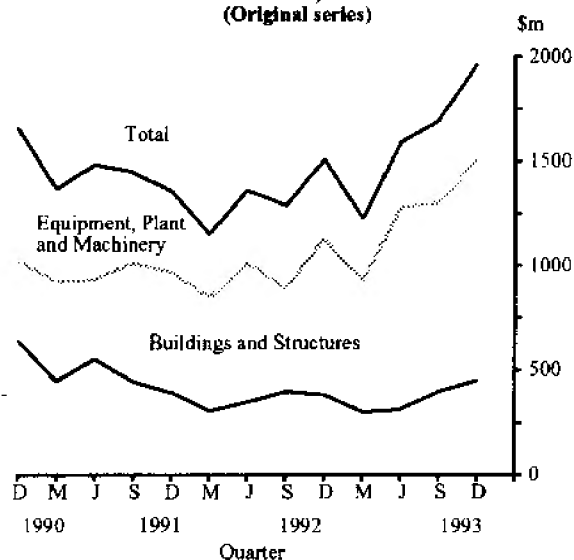
* An asterisk before a statistical series denotes that a corresponding graph is included in the relevant section.

SOURCE INDEX

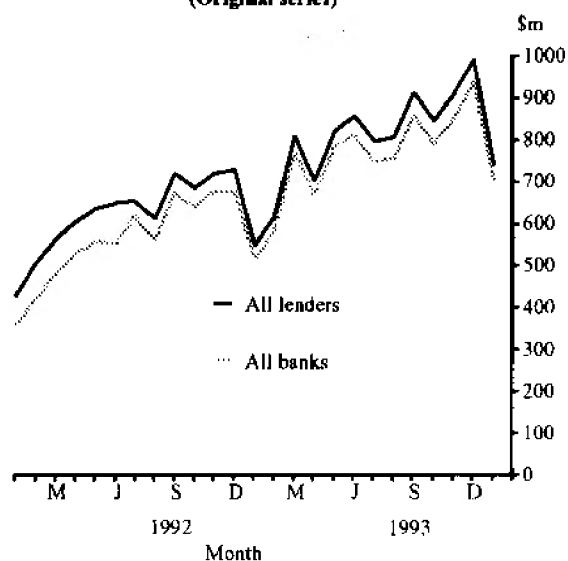
1. *Australian Demographic Statistics*, (3101.0) \$12.20
2. *The Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary*, (6202.0) \$10.70
3. *Job Vacancies and Overtime, Australia*, (6354.0) \$12.70
4. *Average Weekly Earnings, States & Australia*, (6302.0) \$12.70
5. *Award Rates of Pay Indexes, Australia*, (6312.0) \$12.70
6. *Industrial Disputes, Australia*, (6321.0) \$10.70
7. *Consumer Price Index*, (6401.0) \$11.70
8. *Retail Trade Australia*, (8501.0) \$10.70
9. *Imports, Australia, Monthly Summary Tables*, (5433.0) \$9.70
10. *Exports, Australia, Monthly Summary Tables*, (5432.0) \$9.70
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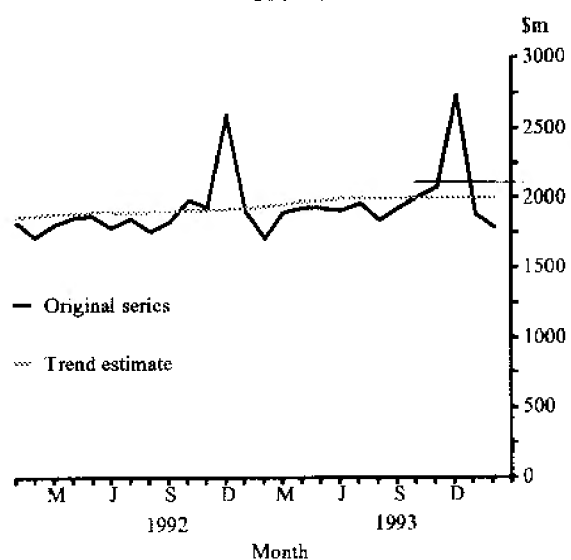
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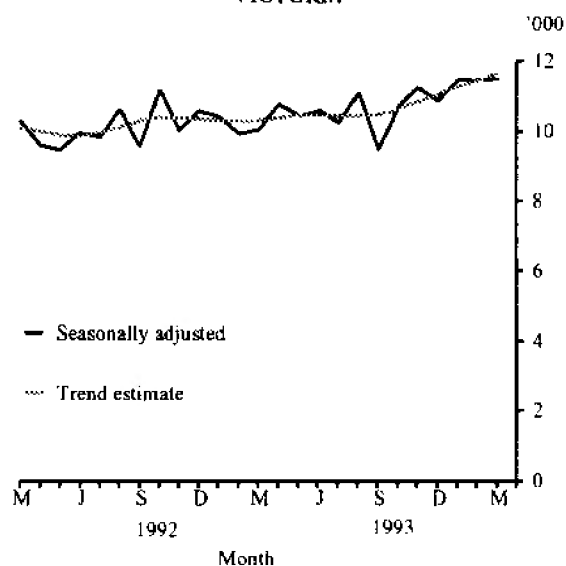
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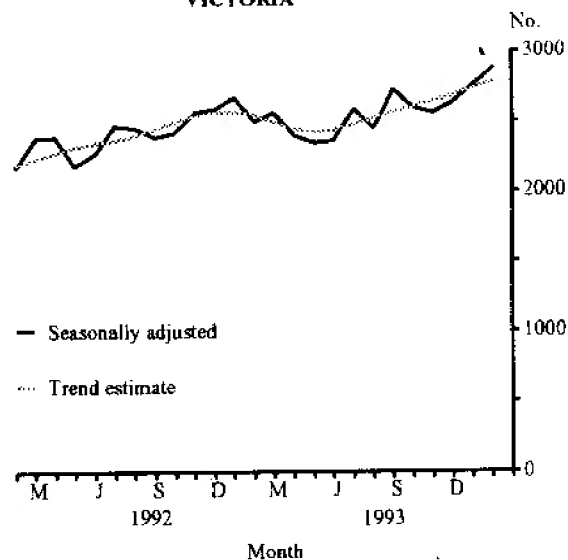
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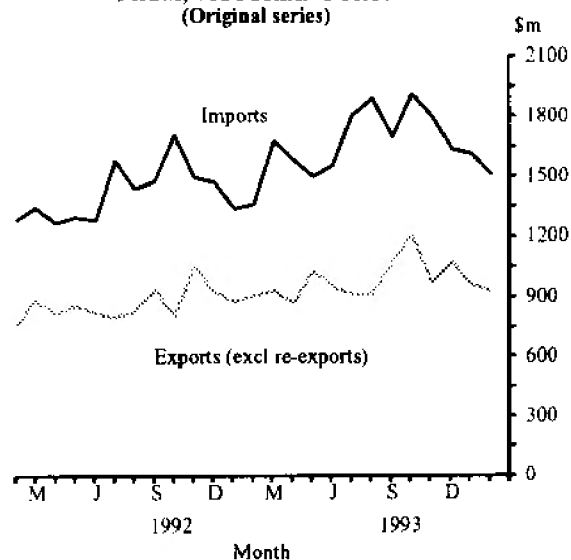
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Symbols and other usages

n.a.	not available
n.y.a.	not yet available
p	preliminary - figure or series subject to revision
r	figure or series revised since previous issue
..	not applicable
-	nil or rounded to zero
—	break in continuity of series (where a line is drawn between two consecutive figures in the same column, or alongside two or more figures in consecutive columns).

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

STUART JACKSON
Deputy Commonwealth Statistician

